

TWO GREAT EUROPEAN CRISSES FORESHADOW WAR

Turko-British Conflict Sure if Lausanne Fails—Poincare May Trade on English Necessity to Aid France.

BY OLIVER OWEN KURY.

TWO great crises in European diplomatic and political relations have arisen. The first is the Turkish question, which will tell whether the peoples of Europe will accept prolonged strife and the possibility of a new world war, or whether they will accept reconciliation of national viewpoints with the welfare of the millions at heart.

There is every reason to believe at the moment that instead of peace and advance there is to be acrimony, heated division of viewpoints, and, before nations have once more emerged from settled pathways of unity.

There is every reason to believe that a prolonged period of strife, diplomatic and political chisms which eventually may plunge two or more nations into warfare.

The Lausanne parley has about reached the rocks. At any hour the break between the quarrelsome Turks and the determined allies may come. With it immediately will be ushered in uncertainty as to whether there will be war between Great Britain and Moslem hosts. There is no doubt that the break between the Lausanne parley and the near east once more will be bathed in blood before the determination of the western powers to see right and justice done in the near east is so thoroughly impressed upon the minds of the governments that there can be no other move on the part of the Turks than capitulation, complete and final.

France-British Differences.

With possibility of a break with the Turks also enters the question of the premier's conference in Paris, where these statements are scheduled to appear this week to decide the method of dealing with the ever-perplexing and dangerous reparations questions. There still is a gulf between the British and French policies, though the British under certain conditions are willing to bend toward the viewpoint of the French in case Germany does not live up to obligations and further war is indicated by the final verdict.

The conference of premiers may lead to complete deadlock—a split that will usher in a new era of European conflict, or it may lead to a settlement of the age-old antipathies and jealousies.

It is learned through diplomatic sources that the Great Britain and France, confronted as they are by the two great questions, the solution of which must rest with the reparations, are planning to save the entente by going out of their way to make concessions to each other.

French Would Barter.

It is declared by those close observers that if England is found to go to extreme lengths in dealing with the Turks, in the Lausanne agreements, that France will barter with the Turks. In other words, France will stand with England and possibly Italy in any war-like moves against the Turks if England on the other hand will lend her support to France, at least not raise objections to further French grip on territories of western Germany to be held as guarantees against reparations exactions.

If there is a breakdown at Lausanne, it is declared that Premier Poincare will be intent upon preserving British interests in the near east by its means, and that France will barter with the Turks.

On the other hand there comes a report that Poincare is absolutely sure that France will stand with England in the near east, directly confident that Great Britain will stand with France in the near east, and that France will stand with England in the near east, and that France will stand with England in the near east.

Isolation Policy Has Friends.

This would place Great Britain in position of being her own row in European adjustments, a policy which is finding increasing adherents in the British government and parliament. Britain cannot be expected to halt the French if Poincare carries out his threat the 15th of January after Germany has failed to comply with allied demands in the way of reparations, but England can turn her back upon France and stand aloof from all the evil consequences, and suffer all the evil consequences, and suffer all the evil consequences.

There is no question but that the French never will breathe easy until Germany is completely bankrupted, morally, physically, and financially, and until Germany is completely bankrupted, morally, physically, and financially.

The premier's conference in Paris is looked forward to with a great deal of interest, particularly in case Poincare attempts to frustrate French aspirations in the direction of Germany. The Teutons are expected to make direct reparations proposals approximating Germany's ability to pay the amounts specified by the allies.

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BY HENRY W. BUNN.

THE following is a brief summary of the most important news of the world for the seven days ended December 30:

United States of America.—On resuming business after the brief Christmas rush, the Senate proceeded to debate the amendment offered by Senator Borah to the last clause of the naval bill, which amendment proposed an international conference at Washington to consider world economic problems (i. e., most particularly, of course, the problem of German reparations) and the subject of further limitation of armaments—land, sea and air. The leader of the attack against the proposed amendment was Senator Lodge and of the defense Senator Borah. It developed in the course of the debate that for some time past the administration has been engaged in "conversations" with foreign governments, with a view to American helplessness toward a settlement of Europe's economic problems, especially the problem of German reparations. Having been hindered by legislative action, questioning of senators in closest touch with the administration that the administration was proceeding with foreign governments, with a view to American helplessness toward a settlement of Europe's economic problems, especially the problem of German reparations.

Bonar Law at Crossroads.—The Bonar Law undoubtedly is at the crossroads, and unless he takes a firm stand against both the French occupation of further German territory and against the Turks he is sure to be the target of rearmament throughout Great Britain. More diplomatic sop will not be tolerated in England. There must be some redeeming features—and there would be none in compromising the French position in the near east, or the French occupation of German territory, it being believed in Great Britain that such move would lead to permanent French tenure and the creation of wounds that would not survive for decades and be the cause of future wars between France and Germany.

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The Lausanne Conference.—Lord Curzon and Jamet Pasha have their horns locked over Mosul. Ismet says that the Turks will fight to the last drop of Turkish blood for the reincorporation of Mosul in Turkey. To which Lord Curzon replies as follows (I quote in full because the statement is both curious and humorous): "I am not an inviolable combination, though Lord Curzon is an honorable man."

"In order that there may be no future misunderstanding, permit me to state that the British government, forced into war with Turkey, defeated the Turks and drove them from the district. Great Britain promised the populations to free them from the Turks. Great Britain has accepted a mandate for this territory. Great Britain has promised in her treaty with the League of Nations to reincorporation of the territory included in the kingdom of Iraq. This train of events constitutes an obligation which no sane government could ignore, and his majesty's government has not the slightest intention of receding from this obligation."

It seems, however, that Lord Curzon is willing to relinquish a small section in the extreme north of the disputed area which contains no oil—or perhaps that is only a malicious rumor.

If the dispute whether Mosul is to remain a part of the kingdom of Iraq, and so under British mandate, or to be returned to Turkish sovereignty, is decided in accordance with the wishes of the Kurds should decide the matter, for of a population of about 925,000, about 600,000 are Kurds, and a plebiscite would not serve the ends of justice, for the Kurds would vote according to their present fears, which might be entirely different from their real preference. No doubt, at present, they prefer Turkey to what they do the British or King Feisal. The question might be asked, "Why not a Kurdish state?" The answer is that hardly would even a Kurd content that the Kurds are fit to govern themselves.

According to a report just received, Ismet has made the embarrassing suggestion of a plebiscite, not of the population of Mosul only, but of the entire population of Iraq, on the question of whether they prefer Arab rule under British mandate, or Turkish rule.

In making this proposition Ismet says he is convinced that the Kurds do not recognize the kingdom of Iraq or the British mandate, but regard Mesopotamia as Turkish territory. O. rare, Ismet!

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persons whose names have been recovered were Lord Tennyson, Florence Nightingale, and the Duke of Wellington. The Duke of Wellington was taken as the poet in the poem and included in the "Bury the Great Duke" and "Let the Tale Be Told." The above suggests infinite gruesome artistic possibilities.

Exit 1922.—The year ends in gloom. In no country on earth can it be said that the most prosperous people on this planet, have daily fresh ghastly proof that it is far from well with us. There is ground for hope, though none too sure, that during the coming year we shall be spared great strikes punctuated with horrors like the Herrin massacre, but there is little promise of abatement in the domestic conflict incident to the eighteenth amendment, while all signs point to a continued rise in our murder rate, increased unemployment, and a general decline in the automobile industry, to increase in number and automobile drivers maintain their traditional recklessness and recklessness.

But perhaps government by bloc—and the progressive character of the next Congress—will correct all. At any rate, compared with the rest of mankind, we have occasion to felicitate ourselves.

In Britain the problem of unemployment is scarcely less appalling than it was a year ago. In the Irish Free State the insurance fund has been exhausted, and the government has had to deny that they still threaten the very existence of the state. The French, for all their boasted prosperity, are in a state of financial collapse, and the immense work of reconstruction still to do. The Germans, for all that Berlin is so gay, are in a state of financial collapse, and the immense work of reconstruction still to do.

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FEW VETERANS ARE LEFT TO DRAW PENSIONS

Enactment of Bursum Bill Emphasizes How Rapidly Defenders of Union Are Passing.

BY G. GOULD LINCOLN.

PASSAGE by Congress of the Bursum bill increasing pensions for civil war veterans and veterans of the Mexican and Indian wars serves to call attention to the tremendous changes that are occurring in the ranks of the survivors of these wars and to what the United States has done, and has failed to do, perhaps, for the defenders of the Union.

The average age of the veterans of the civil war today is seventy-nine years—this for soldiers and sailors now on the pension rolls. It is really a great age, an age that means the great majority of these pensioners will be finally "mustered out" within the next few years. Widows of the veterans, not unnaturally, are "young" in some of the pension laws. The records show that the widows are dying off month by month almost as rapidly as the veterans.

From May, 1921, until April, 1922, inclusive, 24,645 veterans of the civil war were drawn from the pension rolls by reason of